

# TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, TOBYHANNA, PA.

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DECEMBER 19, 2006

## NEWS NOTES

### TFCU changes phone number

Effective Jan. 16, the Tobyhanna Federal Credit Union's phone number for the depot branch will be 570-894-8325.

The credit union is consolidating the phone lines into its call center number in order to provide better service. The current phone line, 570-895-7368, will no longer be in service after Jan. 15.

### Retirees meet for breakfast

The Tobyhanna Mt. Pocono retirees will meet 9 a.m. the first Tuesday of odd numbered months at the Pioneer Diner—Jan. 2, March 6, May 1, July 3, Sept. 4 and Nov. 6. All Tobyhanna retirees are welcome.

For more information contact Ed Gush, 842-8761 or eddieandbets@juno.com.

The Tobyhanna Taylor retirees will meet from 8-10 a.m. the third Wednesday of each month at the Family Affair in Taylor—Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21 and Dec. 19.

For more information, contact Bernie Petrasek, bjpetra@juno.com.

### CWC plans Williamsburg trip

The Civilian Welfare Council is sponsoring a three-day vacation to historical Williamsburg, Va., April 27, 28 and 29. The bus is scheduled to leave the Wegman's parking lot in Wilkes-Barre at 6 a.m. April 27.

Cost is \$585 per couple and \$390 for singles. The price includes transportation, lodging, two breakfasts, one lunch, two dinners, guided tours and all admissions.

Reservations and payment can be made at the One-Stop-Shop; payment is due at time of reservation. For more information, call X58851.

### Correction

In the Dec. 5 *Tobyhanna Reporter* article about Mike Serino on Page 8, there are two retirement dates. He retires Jan. 3. The *Reporter* apologizes for the error.



(Photo by Tony Medici)

A little smile,

A word of cheer,

A bit of love from someone near,

A little gift from one held dear,

Best wishes for the coming year...

John Greenleaf

## Tobyhanna will manufacture nearly 80,000 helmet brackets

by Anthony Ricchiazzi  
Editor

Tobyhanna's aluminum machining and sheet metal expertise has been tapped to provide more than 78,000 new, more durable helmet brackets to Soldiers.

A new mission for Tobyhanna, depot employees will meet the first monthly deadline of 10,000, said Charles Niemotka, an engineering technician in the New Technology Research and Development Division, Production Engineering Directorate.

The brackets, mounted on the front of Advanced Combat Helmets and Combat Vehicle Crewman helmets, are used to hold night vision goggles.

"The brackets Soldiers use now have been breaking under hard field use and [the Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Systems Management Command] asked us in early November if we could manufacture new, stronger parts," Niemotka said.

The bracket is currently made of cast aluminum. To eliminate the breakage problem, the C-E LCMC specified aircraft aluminum, said Gene Haikes, mechanical engineer.

At the time, Tobyhanna could not produce the brackets, which are composed of two parts, one machined, the other stamped.

"We formed a First Run Engineering Cell, which is a team of engineers, sheet metal mechanics and machinists (from the Production Engineering and the Systems Integration and Support

See HELMET BRACKETS on Page 7

Army recognizes the best of the best

Page 3

Reservists learn to communicate

Page 4

Holiday cheer

Page 5



## Not forgotten

The Prisoner-of-War/Missing-in-Action Memorial continues to take shape as contract workers place pavers around the black granite centerpiece with the POW/MIA logo. The contractor will place black granite benches around the outer edge of the sidewalk, and install a flag pole and low voltage lighting system. The Tobyhanna Veterans Council plans to dedicate the monument in May during Armed Forces Week. (Photo by Steve Grzezdzinski)

## THANKS

As we close another year of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), I'm proud to report that Tobyhanna employees came through again! Our goal of \$155,000 was exceeded it by almost \$3,000.

We collected over \$300 at the bake sale/hot dog sale during the kick-off Sept. 18. There were 22 participants in the chili contest. The Spaghetti Dinner pulled in more than \$1,400 and this year a generous donation of fishing reels contributed to over \$400 in raffle sales.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers on the CFC committee, collection room volunteers, key persons, all the volunteers who helped sell the various tickets, those folks behind the scenes who do a lot of paperwork and work closely with other campaigns throughout the area, and my co-chairperson, Melanie Kane. Together we were able to have a successful campaign.

This is not done single handedly – the CFC is an effort of many people pulling together because they believe in what it represents – helping other people.

Thanks to Col. Ron Alberto and the command group staff for their support to the campaign and allowing the volunteers to contribute their time to this effort.



**Sebring**

**Alecia Sebring**  
Combined Federal Campaign, chairperson

## TOBYHANNA REPORTER

The Tobyhanna Reporter is an authorized, biweekly publication for members of the Department of Defense.

Contents of the Tobyhanna Reporter are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army. The 6,000 copies are printed by a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. government, under exclusive written contract with Tobyhanna Army Depot.

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The Tobyhanna Reporter staff can also be reached by electronic mail using the following addresses:

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Jacqueline.Boucher@tobyhanna.army.mil

# Tis the reason for the season

## Everyone plays part in neverending cycle of goodwill

### CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

by Chaplain (Maj.) Philip Smiley



One of my favorite television programs is ABC's "Extreme Home Makeover", with Ty Pennington and his energetic crew. Every week they travel the country rallying a host of enthusiastic volunteers; helping people who really need a hand.

Each episode features a family that is in desperate need of a new home. Sometimes that need comes from a natural disaster such as a hurricane, tornado or flood. Other times it comes from a medical situation or a death in the family. Whatever the cause, the makeover team surprises the family, tours their home with them to learn first hand what they need and then sends them on a much needed vacation. While the family is gone, hundreds of volunteers and community members descend upon the scene, and in seven days, build them the home of their dreams.

Each family featured on the show is definitely worthy, and the outpouring of love from the community forever changes the family receiving a new start. I confess, I keep a box of Kleenex close by, because I often seem to "get something in my eye" while watching.

I've thought about this a lot, and would like to share a few of my reflections.

First, there is still so much good in the hearts of people, everywhere. Sometimes they just need an opportunity or an excuse to let it show. On the television show, volunteers give up a whole week to work non-stop for complete strangers. Businesses donate hundreds of thousands of dollars and educational institutions offer free scholarships.

Second, these families had to find



the courage to make a video, put their situation and pain on the line, and ask for help. Think about what that means. Taking a private loss or grief, opening up to others, laying it on the line and sharing it with total strangers is not easy to do. I have a hard time doing it myself.

Everyone knows that Christmas is a time for giving. Christianity tells the story of a baby born on Earth; a gift from heaven, bringing salvation from sin for all mankind. That is quite a gift. The Bible tells us "...it is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35) I would not argue with that verse at all. Many of us need to put aside selfish interests and experience the joy that comes only from giving to improve the circumstances of others. As a caretaker, chaplain, pastor, husband and father, I know how to give. I have been doing it all my life. I know the joys and warmth one experiences when you bring a smile or relief to someone who is hurting.

As I watch everyone rally around the family being helped, I see just how much joy they receive from helping.

It is a spark of the divine. That is why the homes built are "over the top." They can't do enough. And by their labors of love, they themselves are truly blessed.

But there is another side to the season of giving. You cannot give unless there is someone in need. And at some time in your life, you may be on the receiving end. I'm speaking from first-hand experience. There is another verse in the Bible that says, "Ask and ye shall receive," (John 16:24) And another that says "...ye receive not because ye ask not." (James 4:2)

Many of you know that my wife is ill, and has spent a lot of time in the hospital. During this time, I have had to ask for all kinds of help (caregivers find that difficult). And I have been warmed and overwhelmed by the love and care Nancy and I have received. It is a blessing and a relief to know we do not carry our burdens by ourselves. I wish to thank you all. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

Consider what I have shared with you during this Christmas season. Reach out and touch someone who may need your help. This special time of the year is perfect for reaching out. But don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it. You may deprive someone else of the blessing of giving. You will need their support to get through a difficult time.

This giving and receiving comes in cycles. You can pass on the gift of giving after you have received what you need. And the blessing can go on and on.

Have a wonderful Christmas season; giving and receiving. God bless you all.



### State officials visit Tobyhanna

Steve Janiga briefs (Ret.) Lt. Gen. Ronald Adams, the new chairman of the Pennsylvania Base Development Committee (PBDC), on how the gyro-optics assembly on the AGM-65 Maverick infra-red guidance and control section works. The PBDC is the governor's liaison group to the Commonwealth's military installations. Adams visited Tobyhanna for orientation briefings and a tour Dec. 8. Janiga is the Maverick Missile Branch chief. (Photo by Steve Grzezdzinski)

**Commander,** Col. Ron Alberto  
**Public Affairs Officer,** Kevin M. Toolan  
**Editor,** Anthony J. Ricchiazzi  
**Assistant Editor,** Jacqueline R. Boucher  
**Photographers,** Anthony S. Medici, Steve Grzezdzinski



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### TEAM

## TOBYHANNA

EXCELLENCE IN

ELECTRONICS

# Disability doesn't stop Army employee of year

by Jacqueline Boucher  
Assistant Editor

A production materials handler from Tobyhanna's Work In Progress Control Area (WIPCA) accepted the Department of the Army Disabled Employee of the Year Award during a ceremony at the Pentagon Dec. 5.

Born without arms and legs, Chester Bogart said he has never let his handicap prevent him from living a normal life. He was among 14 Defense Department honored at the 26th Annual DoD Disability Awards.

"My mother always encouraged me to try to do things on my own," Bogart said, attributing his success to his supportive parents. "They always backed me in whatever I did in life."

Bogart has tracked and expedited parts for several industrial cost centers in the depot's Production Management Directorate for more than 22 years.

Supervisors and coworkers are not surprised that Bogart's accomplishments are being recognized at the local, command and Army levels.

Mike Henry worked with Bogart for more than 10 years and said during that time the production materials handler always maintained a positive attitude.

"The award is very well deserved, and

I'm truly happy to see him get it," said Henry, WIPCA manager. "Chester has always impressed me with what he can do with what he's got. He never shied away from any thing I asked him to do -- typing, writing, carrying things, lifting things."

Bogart is also able to drive to work in a vehicle modified to fit his physical requirements.

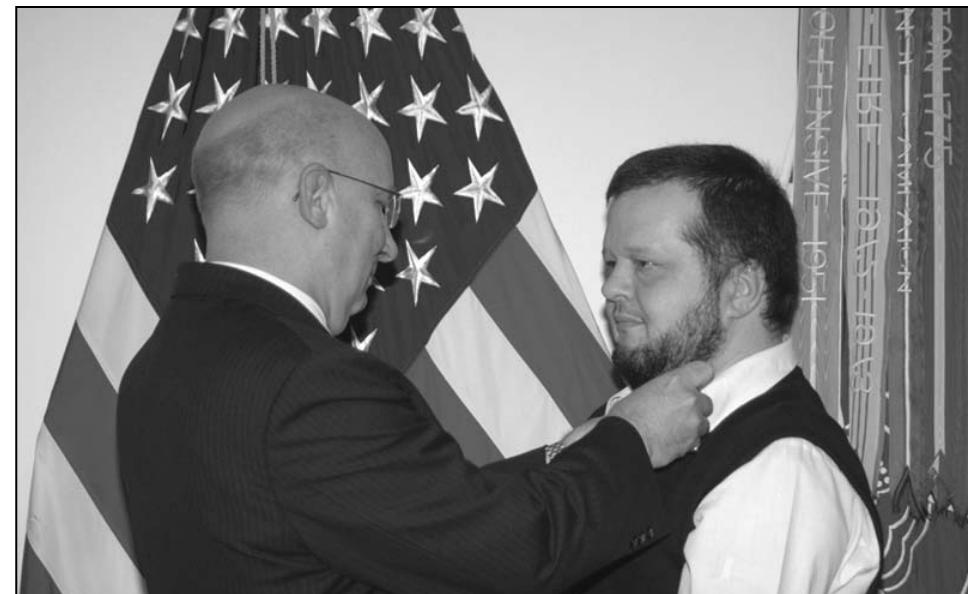
The severity of Bogart's handicap and his ability to accomplish the job is what caught the eye of Tobyhanna officials this year.

"The dexterity he has is amazing," said John Sutkowsky, equal employment manager, Equal Opportunity Office. "You don't really regard Chester as having any disabilities because he can do what anyone else can do." Sutkowsky submitted Bogart's nomination package for consideration at the Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command (C-E LCMC) level.

"Things just come naturally to me," Bogart said. "I grew up learning how to work without hands and feet. To me there's no difference between that and 'normal' people learning how to do things with hands."

David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, hosted the DoD ceremony in Bethesda, Md., and presented awards to the civilian employees with disabilities.

During the annual event, he said DoD



**Chester Bogart is awarded the Department of the Army Disabled Employee of the Year Award during a ceremony at the Pentagon Dec. 5. (Photo by Leroy Council)**

employs more than 5,000 people with severe disabilities.

Keynote speaker John Vaughn, chairman of the National Council on Disability, urged agencies and employers not to forget that disabled people make excellent, productive employees.

During off-duty time, Bogart keeps busy with different projects on and off the depot.

One year he volunteered to custom-decorate bags filled with gifts for visitors attending Operation Santa Claus festivities.

He also speaks at local schools educating students about people with disabilities. In addition, he likes to create cartoon characters and is an avid movie buff. Bogart is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Monroe County and is an active participant in the group's community work. He has also worked as a little league umpire.

"Bogart is a well-rounded and multi-talented individual," Henry said. "His knowledge, motivation, skills and work ethic are priceless assets to Tobyhanna's mission."

## Steamtown train travels to Tobyhanna ice festival

Steamtown National Historic Site at Scranton is offering a mid-winter steam excursion to the annual Ice Harvest Festival and Demonstration at Tobyhanna.

On Jan. 13, a steam locomotive will travel to the Tobyhanna station, and excursionists will be transported to Mill Pond #1, courtesy of the Lackawanna Valley Heritage Valley Authority, where historic tools and equipment will be used to gather blocks of ice from the pond.

Additionally, the Coolbaugh Township Historical Association will conduct a tour of the Village of Tobyhanna.

The Tobyhanna Ice Harvest excursion departs at 10 a.m., and returns at about 2:45 p.m.

Cost is \$31 -- ages 17 and older; \$26 -- ages 62 and older; \$20 -- ages 6 to 16 years old. Ages 5 and under require a "no charge" ticket. The \$6 daily Park Entrance Fee is included in the ticket cost.

Tickets are on sale and reservations may be made by phoning 340-5204, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily (10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. after Jan. 2).

If the pond is not frozen, tours of the village of Tobyhanna and the Mill Pond #1 ice house and restored 1908 boxcar will be conducted as an alternative.

The 1908 Tobyhanna station will be open and refreshments available through the Pocono Mountains Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society.

Located in Scranton, Steamtown's winter hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily, Jan. 2 - March 31. From I-81, follow exit 185 (Central Scranton Expressway); follow the signs to the main entrance at Lackawanna and Cliff Avenues.

Additional information may be obtained by calling 570-340-5200, or toll free 888-693-9391 or by visiting [www.nps.gov/stea](http://www.nps.gov/stea).

## "Fuzz button" idea reaps reward

by Jacqueline Boucher  
Assistant Editor

Gary Gardsy's idea to cut out the middleman when replacing the "fuzz button" in the Maverick Missile System will save \$2,047.50 annually.

The replacement of a tiny suppressor (fuzz button) plagued with high costs and backorder problems was Gardsy's motivation for change using the Army Suggestion Program (ASP). The electronic mechanics leader was awarded \$1,204 for his suggestion to initiate on-site replacement capability.

"I feel terrific that my idea is beneficial to the government, Army and Air Force," Gardsy said. "People should stick with their ideas no matter how mundane they may seem. What have you got to lose?"

On the advice of a coworker, the 26-year depot veteran put pen to paper and submitted his idea to the suggestion program office.

The Maverick's Guidance and Control System (GCS) houses a detection device that incorporates a cold finger (cryo-engine) unit generated by stored helium. The tip of the cold finger houses a suppressor measuring 7/32 of an inch in diameter that is comprised of felt-type material. Employees in the Maverick Missile Branch replace, on average, 260-300 fuzz buttons a year. When purchased from the manufacturer, the buttons cost \$8 each.

Gardsy's research revealed the depot could save money by purchasing a sheet of fine wire mesh for \$104.79 per sheet, fabricating a punch tool and manufacturing the suppressors here. One 4x5 sheet of the felt-type material equates to 46,080 suppressors.

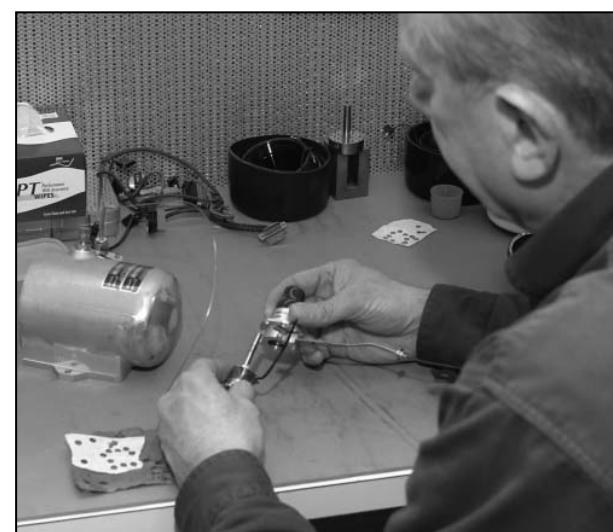
"It [the material] looks like a piece of felt, but actually it's a piece of fine wire mesh," he said, noting that the material should last forever. "The little suppressors fit

between the cold finger and the detector to insulate it from extreme cold."

New suppressors are required every time a detector or cold finger is replaced.

The ASP is an incentive program to encourage Soldiers and civilians to submit ideas that can increase the efficiency and productivity of the Army. The program provides cash award incentives up to \$25,000 for adopted ideas that save government resources.

To be accepted in the ASP, a suggestion must benefit the Army or other U.S. government activities or present a problem or situation and propose a solution with sufficient rationale to support the requested new procedure. For more information about the suggestion program, call Trish Patelunas, X56770.



**Gary Gardsy replaces the "fuzz button" on the Maverick Missile Guidance and Control System. His idea to create the buttons here will generate an annual savings of more than \$2,000. (Photo by Tony Medici)**

# Depot, BAE officials sign partnership agreement

by Kevin Toolan  
Public Affairs Officer

Tobyhanna Army Depot and BAE Systems signed a teaming agreement to partner on the readiness and sustainment of electronic systems for the joint warfighter.

The relationship between Tobyhanna and BAE Systems has grown over many years with BAE Systems as the developer and manufacturer of a wide range of aircraft and ground-based electronic weapons systems, and Tobyhanna providing the repair and overhaul of these systems.

Signing the partnership agreement were Col. Ron Alberto, depot commander, and Jeff Cook, BAE Systems vice president of Readiness and Sustainment in Nashua, N.H.

"This partnership agreement further enables our two organizations to provide enhanced support to our joint warfighters on systems critical to their readiness and success," said Alberto. "It builds on our previous successes where we have teamed, such as increasing the reliability of critical aircraft survivability systems."

"Through this partnership, we will provide



**Tobyhanna teams with BAE Systems to provide warfighter support from the battlefield to the depot.**

our warfighters with the most dependable products available, and the capability to field and support equipment as quickly as possible," said Cook. "We are honored to join forces with the Army to better serve the needs of our nation's fighting forces."

The BAE Systems/Tobyhanna team will focus on systems' total lifecycle management,

optimizing maintenance, supply chain management, obsolescence, engineering changes and product improvement.

With decades of experience supporting these systems, the Tobyhanna/BAE Systems partnership will deliver the full spectrum of warfighter support, from the battlefield to the depot, with a cost savings to program managers that allows for rapid product improvements and development of other weapons systems.

Most recently, the two organizations enhanced the safety and operational readiness of Army aviation assets in Southwest Asia through the development and fielding of desert filter kits for the AN/ALQ-144 aircraft survivability system.

The partnership's latest project is support of the new Common Missile Warning System (CMWS), deployed on aircraft throughout Southwest Asia.

This critical system alerts and protects aircraft and aircrew from incoming missiles and is used throughout the Army Rotary Wing Community. The CMWS program is under the leadership of Col. Phil Carey, product manager, Infrared Countermeasures, within

the Project Executive Office for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors.

BAE Systems is the product support integrator with Tobyhanna as the product support provider in a performance based logistics partnership.

Depot personnel will be trained on CMWS this month, with personnel then deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan early in 2007. Tobyhanna will then increase support to CMWS at the depot, repairing electronic components with support from BAE Systems engineering personnel. Together, the team will share technical data related to the system's reliability and sustainability, enabling rapid responses to system repairs and improvements.

BAE Systems is the premier trans-Atlantic defense and aerospace company, delivering a full range of products and services for air, land, and naval forces, as well as advanced electronics, information technology solutions, and customer support services.

BAE Systems, with 88,000 employees worldwide, had 2005 sales that exceeded \$22 billion, excluding the group's former interest in Airbus.

## Army Reservists train here for new SATCOM concept

by Anthony Ricchiazzi  
Editor

Tobyhanna is supporting the Army's effort to transform satellite communications (SATCOM) support from the brigade to the company level.

Reservists from the 392nd Signal Battalion (Integrated Theater Signal Battalion) trained here on AN/TSC-85D and 93D Ground Mobile Forces Tactical Satellite (GMF TACSAT) communications terminals from Nov. 28 through Dec. 8.

TSC-85s and TSC-93s provide tactical SATCOM for the Army, Air Force and Marine Corps. They provide long-haul communications from anywhere that SATCOM is required. Tobyhanna has been upgrading the C model to the D configuration.

Training consisted of classroom instruction and operating terminals at the High Tech Regional Training Site-Maintenance, said Rich Maranchick, a Northrop Grumman Mission Systems instructor, SATCOM Division, Communications Systems Directorate. "This is the first time the Reservists have used the 93 and 85 D models, so they are learning to operate and maintain the D model," he said. "The active duty side was issued the D model first, now the Reservists and Guard are getting them." Maranchick works with Ben Hurst, another Northrop Grumman Mission Systems instructor.

"Mr. Hurst and Mr. Maranchick came to us a couple of months ago and wanted to know if we could provide space at the Site for this training mission," said Sgt 1st Class James R. Harris, the High Tech Site's NCOIC. "I worked with a Site instructor, Greg Dubler, to coordinate classroom space, vehicles, fuel for the generators and reserve parking lot space for the SATCOM systems. It was a short notice job, but everyone worked together well and we were ready for the Reservists on time."

Dubler coordinated with the 392nd Signal Battalion to provide the generators.

"The concept stood up last year and consists of combining missions from different units into one company," said Staff Sgt. Stephen Maxfield.

"Rather than wait for units to gather with all their

equipment, this concept allows all the assets to be in one place and ready to go," said Spec. Andrew Milwee. "You get the mission and you can go. It's kind of like COTS (commercial off the shelf systems); the government buys a system already developed that fits the need rather than going through the development and testing phases for a new system."

The unit supports the entire mission of SATCOM support: setting up the computers, the network, establishing SATCOM links, and administrative duties.

The unit that trained at Tobyhanna's High Tech Site establishes the network and keeps it running.

"We keep the end users talking," Maxfield said. "If the network goes down, we get it back up."

The Reservists noted that the D model has less equipment, is more user friendly, easier to set up, accommodates more users and has faster data rates than the C model.

They also praised the training and depot support of the systems.

"The instructors are top notch," said Staff Sgt. William Long. "We've had to learn a lot of information and they are very knowledgeable and helpful. I've had SINCGARS (Single Channel Ground and Air Radio System) courses here. Tobyhanna is a good place to train. Ideally, we'll continue having training courses here."

**See TRAINING on Page 7**

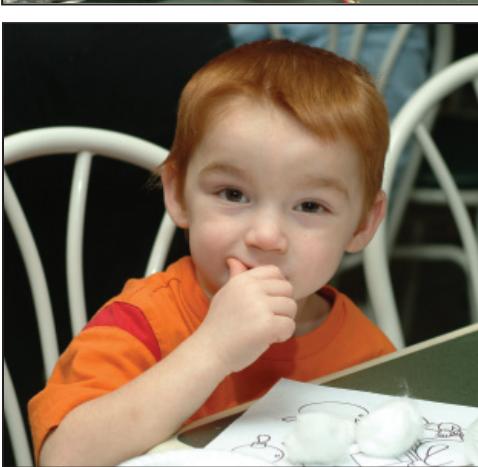


**Rich Maranchick, a Northrop Grumman instructor, shows Spec. Jennifer Palmer and Staff Sgt. Brian Davis how to use a component of the AN/TSC-85D satellite terminal. Palmer and Davis are members of the 392nd Signal Battalion (Integrated Theater Signal Battalion). (Photo by Tony Medici)**

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# OPERATION SANTA CLAUS



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# WELCOME TO THE DEPOT

Name	Title	Organization
Santiago Gonzales	Electronic integrated sys mech	D/C3/Avionics
Mario Johns	Painting worker	D/SIS
Edward Roche	Painting worker	D/SIS
Estella Herrmann	Supply technician	DDTP

## NEW SUPERVISORS

**Steven Janiga**  
is the Maverick  
Missile Branch  
chief, Tactical  
Missile Division,  
Command,  
Control and  
Computer  
Systems/Avionics  
Directorate.



Janiga

As electronics mechanic supervisor, he supervises 22 employees who overhaul, repair and modify the AGM-65 Maverick missile guidance and control section. Their customers include the Air Force, Navy, Marines, foreign military sales and Boeing.

Prior to his current position, Janiga was an electronic measurement equipment mechanic for the same branch. He began his career at Tobyhanna in December 1983.

Janiga is a 1973 graduate of West Side Area Vocational School, Pringle, Pa.

He resides in Hazelton and his hobbies include motorcycles, fishing and electronics. He is a member of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church.



Martin

Reconnaissance Directorate.

As electronics mechanic supervisor, he supervises 20 employees who overhaul AN/TPS-75 system components and management-of-items-subject-to-repair (MISTR) items.

He began his career at Tobyhanna in September 1983.

Martin served four years in the Army Security Agency as an intercept system technician/instructor.

He is a 1964 graduate of Riverside High School, Taylor, Pa. In 1967, Martin earned an associate degree in electric and electronic technology at Penn State University.

He resides in Taylor.

His hobbies include amateur radio and providing emergency communications.



## Fitness: It's child's play

Children learn about physical fitness through playing games at the Mack Field House. The Community Youth Services held its annual Fun Fitness Day Nov. 17. Members of the CYS personnel invited members of the homeschool community to attend and 33 children (including CYS participants and homeschool children) and 10 adults (staff and parents of the homeschool children) participated. The day began at the Mack Field House with warm up exercises, group icebreakers, individual group skill time and fitness challenge games. All children were awarded prizes for their participation in the event. After gym time, the children were treated to lunch and then participated in some additional fitness activities outside. (Photos by Tony Medici)

## COMMUNITY BULLETIN

**Editor's Note:** The Community Bulletin provides an avenue for depot and tenant employees to advertise van or car pools, and for-sale items. Money making items such as rentals and personal business will not be accepted.

Information must be submitted via e-mail to Jacqueline Boucher@tobyhanna.army.mil, or written items can be mailed to the Public Affairs Office, mail stop 5076.

Submissions must include a name and telephone extension. Only home phone numbers will be published in the Trading Post section.

Ads will be published in four consecutive newspapers. It is the customer's responsibility to update or renew items listed in the Community Bulletin.

For more information, call Jacqueline Boucher, X58073.



### VAN/CAR POOLS

- **Tripps Park, North Scranton:** individual seeks ride, van, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. or 7:30-4 p.m. shifts, call Al Aukscunas, X59360.

- **Jim Thorpe:** 1 opening, van, 5/4/9, "A" placard, contact Frank Lauth, X57361 or frank.lauth@tobyhanna.army.mil.

- **Dallas, Shavertown, Exeter:** accepting names for waiting list, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, call Bob Redinski, X59184 or send e-mail.

- **Lake Winola:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, non-smoking, possible house pick up, contact Mark Evans, X56999 or mark.evans@tobyhanna.army.mil.

- **Wilkes Barre:** 1 opening, van, 15 passengers, non-smoking, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. shift, pick up across from K-Mart at 5:50 a.m., Wesley Dervinis, X56839.
- **Jim Thorpe area:** 2 openings, via I-80, 5/4/9, both Fridays, call Brian Hydro, X58727.
- **Factoryville, Dalton, Clarks Summit:** 1 opening starts Jan. 7, passengers, van, non-smoking, "A" placard, 5/4/9, first Friday, call Richard Pomieter, X59343 or send e-mail.
- **Plains, Pittston:** 1 opening, starts Jan. 1, 6 passengers, van, "A" placard, house-to-house pickup in Plains or at Pittston park and ride, call Steve Beck, X59694.
- **West Scranton:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, Luzerne Street shopping center, non-smoking, call Jim Mangan or Bill Flynn, X58184.
- **Dunmore, Jessup, surrounding area:** openings, van, nonsmoking, 7 passengers, pick up at Holiday Inn in Dunmore, 5/4/9, call Yvette Pollack, X56475.
- **Bloomsburg, Berwick area:** individual needs a ride, van, bus or car, call Jim Sinclair, X57646.
- **Taylor, Scranton:** 2 openings, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, pick up on Moosic Street, call Steve or Matt, X58727.
- **Lehigh Valley or Wind Gap:** individual seeks ride, van or car pool, 3:30 p.m. to midnight shift, call Craig Tshudy, X56978.
- **Lenoxville:** starting new van pool, 5/4/9, call Bob Tonkin, X57240.



### TRADING POST

- **Snow tires:** 4, Champiro 65TR15, used 4 months, like new,

asking \$150 OBO, call Lori 587-2646.

- **Misc. items:** Class 2 hitch, 2006 and earlier, Caravan/Town and Country, without stow-and-go seats, \$75; Class 3 hitch, 2006 and later, Caravan/Town and Country, with stow-and-go seats, paid \$185, asking \$100; bra for 2003/2005 Sonata, paid \$165, asking \$70; 4 new faucets, for claw-type bathtub, imported from Germany, paid \$1,500, asking \$500, call Art Kearney, 610-681-8306.

- **Snow tires:** 4, Bridgestone Blizzak, size 205/60R16, used 3 seasons, inspected by Kost Tire and Auto Service and rated very good condition, \$200, call 585-4068, leave message.

- **Trailer:** Free, 1970, 12x60 Parkwood, good condition, must be moved, Hazleton area; 1996 Taurus wagon, \$2,000; 1996 Taurus sedan, \$1,500, both in good condition, call Mary at 455-6833.

- **Television:** flat screen, Phillips, 51 inches, rear projection, HDTV with remote, like new, \$950, call 342-2197.

- **Snow tires:** P205-70-15, Snow Tracker radio ST/2, used one season, \$30 for both, call Gloria or Jim, 876-3978

- **Mobile Home:** 3 bedrooms, located on quiet park off Route 307, in North Pocono School District, asking \$22,500 OBO, call 335-0079.

- **Ford Focus:** 2000, ZX3, 83,000 miles, new tires, winterized, CD player, 5-speed, clean/no rust, 37 mph, asking \$4,000 call Eric, 234-5795.

- **Misc. items:** utility dump cart, \$140; tow-behind lawn sweeper, \$400; tow-behind lawn sprayer, \$200; lawn roller, \$100; Canon S750 and S600 printers, \$100 each; corner computer desk, \$250; glass-top computer desk with two file drawers; television swivel stand, \$200, call Adrienne, 853-3113.

## Tickets for prayer breakfast available

The Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast will be Jan. 11 in the Post Restaurant. The serving lines open at 6:15 a.m. and the program begins at 7 a.m. Cost is \$4. The guest speaker is Elder Leonon Trawick, Full Gospel Holiness Church of God In Christ. For tickets, call Mary Noldy, X57880.



Staff Sgt. Stephen Maxfield (left) and Spec. Philip McCauley test the phone in an AN/TSC-85D satellite terminal. They are members of the 392nd Signal Battalion (Integrated Theater Signal Battalion).

## TRAINING from Page 4

Spec. Gordon Boltz compared the two weeks of training to a six month course. "We've learned a great deal in a short time," he said.

Maranchick and Hurst said personnel from Tobyhanna's Communications Systems, Production Engineering, Public Works and Industrial Risk Management directorates, and the High Tech Site, supported the training, from maintaining the terminals to setting them up in the parking lot.

The Tactical Satellite Communications Branch reset and upgraded the systems, said John Nicholoff, branch chief. The unit will receive TSC-85 and TSC-93 terminals in the near future.

"Without their efforts, our job would have been impossible," Hurst said. "We've had no problems with the systems."

"The help Tobyhanna personnel provided has been very professional," Maranchick added.

Unit members are also training here to operate the system's 16-foot AS-4429 Lightweight High Gain X-Band Antenna.

Harris said they are projected to begin a SATCOM Systems Operator-Maintainer course by the end of January.

"We'll be able to train 10 Guard or Reserve per class," he said. "The course will be seven weeks consisting of two phases. Each phase will be approximately three and a half weeks."

## Ferlise bids farewell

Victor J. Ferlise, deputy to the commanding general for Operations and Support, Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command, offers remarks at the Nov. 30 Length of Service ceremony. Ferlise participated in the ceremony as part of his farewell tour prior to his retirement on Feb. 2.

He said he appreciates the support that Tobyhanna Army Depot has provided to the armed forces and noted that a story about Blue Force Tracking highlights the importance to the warfighter of the depot and C-E LCMC. The commander of the lead tank going into Baghdad at the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom was told that an unknown tank column was headed their way. "The commander looked at his screen, it was blue, our tanks," Ferlise said. "They came that close to firing on them, but Blue Force Tracking saved the day there and I'm sure many other places we'll never know about. But I do know that warfighters came back alive because of what you do. On behalf of myself and all the folks at Fort Monmouth, thanks for all you do."

Depot commander Col. Ron Alberto presented Ferlise with a plaque in appreciation of his support of Tobyhanna and 35 years of federal service. (Photo by Tony Medici)



Ferlise

## Materials handler C-E LCMC employee of year

A Production Management Directorate employee has earned the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command Team C4ISR Employee of the Year 2006 (Junior Category). Robert Pollish, a materials handler in the directorate's Automated Storage and Retrieval System Division, earned the award for developing a forklift dual control system.

He also received a Department of the Army Commander's Award for Civilian Service, a \$750 Special Act Cash Award and a plaque. The Association of the United States Army gave him a plaque, a certificate, a watch, a savings bond and a one year membership in AUSA.

The forklift dual control system allows the driver to operate the forklift going forward or backward while facing the direction of the movement. The system frees forklift drivers from having to strain to look behind them when backing up. His system has been patented.

His control system and award were featured in a *Tobyhanna Reporter* article published on March 7. To nominate an employee for an award at Tobyhanna, call Lisa Pavlishin, Incentive Awards program manager, X59249.



Pollish

## HELMET BRACKETS from Page 1

directories), to set up and prove a process to manufacture the brackets," Niemotka said. "The depot establishes these cells for high quantity, high priority jobs like this."

"Charlie (Niemotka) and the machinists had a general idea of how to produce them. We designed a fixture based on his recommendations that would allow us to machine several of the parts at once," Haikes said.

The team then researched the required tooling for the fixture and ran tests to prove the tooling they chose could do the job in the time required.

"We initially estimated it would take 12 minutes to machine a part, then made our goal seven minutes. We can now machine a part in less than five minutes," said Jason Toy, an engineering technician. "Our fixture can machine 30 parts at a time."

Their second challenge was to improve the design drawings, which lacked dimensions for the machined part and the sheet metal part.

Using the drawings supplied by C-E LCMC, Dave Peters, a mechanical engineering technician, produced drawings with dimensions in two days.

"Computer aided manufacturing software was used to make models of the two parts, which were then fabricated in plastic by the depot's Rapid Prototype Machine to prove our design," Niemotka said.

For the stamped part, the team employed a contractor to make new punch and die sets for the depot's punch press.

Frank Balon, mechanical engineer, designed the bending dies that form the part into the proper shape. "The bending dies were fabricated by the Industrial Services Division," Haikes said.

"The sheet metal part is stamped, then the holes

are punched, then it's formed to the proper shape," explained Pat Welch, mechanical engineering technician. "Our Punch Press can make 84 of the parts in about five minutes."

Tobyhanna can produce about 10 formed parts in two minutes.

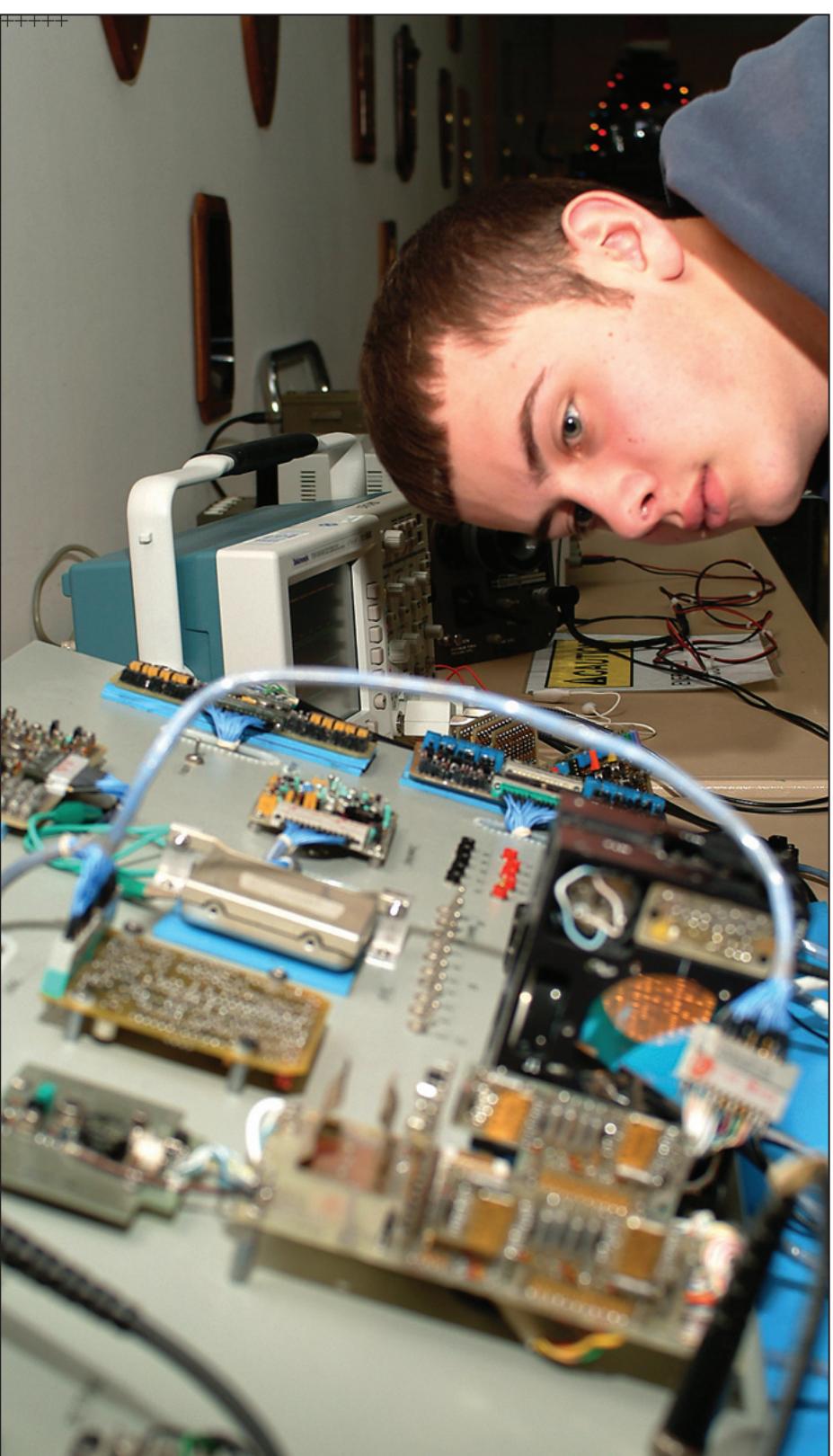
When the bracket parts are made, Refinishing Services Division personnel plate and color them.

Tobyhanna began fabricating the parts three weeks ago and have made more than 3,000 brackets to date.

Design and machine data was provided to Letterkenny Army Depot, who will also make the parts. Tobyhanna will also plate and color the brackets made by Letterkenny.



Howie Wright measures the dimensions of a helmet bracket part using a dial caliper. The part has just been machined in the depot's Vertical Milling Machine. Tobyhanna will fabricate nearly 80,000 combat helmet brackets, which are used to hold night vision goggles. (Photo by Anthony Ricchiazzi)



## SMART choice

Rafal Slowik, an East Stroudsburg High School North senior, looks at a circuit card tester for man portable night vision equipment during a Science, Mathematics and Related Technologies (SMART) tour Dec. 7. Thirty-seven students from Monroe County Technical Institute, and Tunkhannock and East Stroudsburg high schools were here to learn about career opportunities and the education requirements for specific fields. Activities included tours, presentations and hands-on demonstrations. (Photo by Steve Grzezdzinski)

## STAY TUNED

Local media announce weather delays, closures

### Television stations

WNEP, Channel 16  
WYOU, Channel 22  
WBRE, Channel 28

### AM radio stations

WAEB, 790 (Allentown)  
WARM, 590 (Scranton)  
WKAP, 1470 (Allentown)  
WEJL (ESPN), 630 (Scranton)  
WLK, 910/980 (Pittston)  
WICK, 1400 (Scranton)

### FM radio stations

WAEB, 104.1 (Allentown)  
WKAB, 103.5 (Berwick)  
WMGS, 92.9 (Scranton)  
WKRZ, 98.5 (Pittston)  
WGGY, 101.3 (Pittston)  
WWDL, 105 (Scranton)  
WEZX, 106.9 (Scranton)



Winter weather often produces hazardous conditions that may impact the depot's operational status. Public announcements regarding depot closings or starting time delays will be provided to local television and radio stations, and recorded on a toll free information hotline. Employees are encouraged to tune in to the media outlets listed below or call 1-800-429-4496 to hear the recorded announcement.

# New defense secretary takes office

by Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Robert M. Gates took over as defense secretary Monday, and the department wished current Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld farewell at a Pentagon ceremony Friday.

Gates and Rumsfeld have met a couple of times to handle transition issues and will meet again in the coming week, spokesman Bryan Whitman told reporters this morning.

Whitman also spoke about the recommendations of the Iraq Study Group. He said DoD officials are looking closely at the group's report.

"We take very seriously the recommendations that they have made (and) the thoughtfulness behind this effort,"

## Farewell message from Rumsfeld

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—For these past six years, I have had the opportunity – and, I should add, the privilege – to serve with the greatest military the world has ever known.

To all of the men and women in uniform, all across the globe, I wish it were possible for me to meet with each of you personally today so I could look you in the eyes, shake your hands and express my heartfelt gratitude for your service, and to give you some sense of what you have given me – pride in our mission and an abiding confidence in our country and in those of you who volunteer to risk your lives to defend us all.

As I complete my second tour as secretary of defense, I leave knowing that the true strength of our military lies not in our weapons, but in the hearts of the men and women in uniform, in your patriotism, in your professionalism, and your determination to accomplish the mission.

President Abraham Lincoln once said, and I quote, "Determine that the thing can and shall be done, and then we shall find the way." I have seen countless examples of this resolve when I have met with those of you serving in this struggle against violent extremists.

I remember visiting a base near Fallujah, where Marines had been engaged in some of the most intense house-to-house fighting since World War II. It was two days before Christmas. A staff sergeant asked me why there wasn't a way he could extend his tour beyond his unit's service limit in Iraq.

And, I think back to a young man I met at Bethesda naval hospital. He was in the very early stages of his recovery from multiple wounds suffered in Iraq. He looked up at me with a tube in his nose, and he said: "If only the American people will give us the time we need, we can do it. We are getting it done."

And a soldier I met in Afghanistan not long ago who said, "I really can't believe we're allowed to do something this important." Well, I feel the same way. I can't believe I have had the chance to be involved in something so important to the safety of the American people and the future of our country.

What you are accomplishing is not simply

Whitman said. "We certainly want to give it the kind of review and analysis it deserves."

He said the coalition effort to embed trainers with Iraqi units is working well. "Clearly, we have found that embedding trainers in Iraqi units is something that has a tremendous amount of value in terms of helping them develop," he said. "It is one of those areas where, for some time now, we have been reinforcing success by adding to the number of people embedded in those units."

Some 5,000 U.S. trainers are assigned to 400 transition teams in Iraq. These teams work down to battalion level. Local U.S. commanders augment these teams with troops from their units, Pentagon officials said. In addition, squads of Iraqis work inside U.S. platoons in some units.

## important – it is historic.

When the cause of human freedom required men and women to stand on the front lines in its defense, you stepped forward to liberate more than 50 million citizens in Afghanistan and Iraq.

You captured or killed tens of thousands of extremists – taking the fight to where they live, rather than waiting for the extremists to attack us again where our families live; and you helped alleviate the conditions that foster extremism in places like the Horn of Africa, the Philippines and elsewhere so that your children and grandchildren will not have to face the challenges that we face today.

This month has two important anniversaries – the free elections of the Iraqi national assembly and the seating of the very first democratically elected president in Afghanistan's history. We all remember the images of Iraqis raising their purple fingers in the air after voting in their first free elections and the images of Afghan girls singing as their new president took the oath of office. Those were historic chapters in the saga of human freedom, and you made them possible.

The long struggle we are in is complex; it's unfamiliar; and it's still little understood, leading some to believe that there is no need to go on.

The enemy is counting on us to falter and fail. You are the ones who live the successes and endure the setbacks of this struggle, who find your daily missions a personal test of will. And you are the ones who, above all, know the cause of freedom is worth the price.

In 10 or 20 years, when you are talking to your children or to your grandchildren, you will look back on your service and at what you have accomplished with a great sense of pride. You will know that you were part of a proud history. Indeed, you were the makers of that proud history and an inspiration to the generations that followed.

It has been the highest honor of my life to serve with you – the men and women of the U.S. armed forces. You have my eternal respect, and you will remain in my thoughts and prayers always.

Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense